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## Missouri public library demographics now available on the Web

**T**he population in Missouri's 149 public library districts has very broad range—from fewer than 400 to nearly 900,000. Over one-half (52 percent) of the people living in a tax-supported library district are served by the six largest systems in the state: St. Louis County Library (population: 873,483), Mid-Continent Public Library (population: 668,428), St. Louis Public Library (348,189), St. Charles City-County Library (283,883), Springfield-Greene County Library (240,391), and Kansas City Public Library (239,525).

Beyond the basic population figures, the demographic makeup of library districts also varies widely. Two districts serve a population with more than 29 percent age 65 and older. At the other end of the spectrum, two districts serve a population with less than 8 percent in the age 65+ category. The percent who live in poverty ranges from a low of 3.8 percent in a suburban municipal district to a high of 38.3 percent in a municipal district in the southeast part of the state. Median household income ranges from a low of \$15,536 to a high of \$57,870 (the state average is \$37,934).

All of this information, and much more, can be compiled and analyzed now that Census 2000 data are available for Missouri public library districts. Information for individual districts can be accessed from the "Public Library Demographics" link on the Missouri State Library website at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/library>. The page provides links to data from the short-form questionnaire (also known as Summary File 1, or the 100 percent count) and the long-form questionnaire (known as Summary File 3, or the sample count). In addition, the page offers links to a variety of other websites with demographic and census information.

### Customized work

Long-form data from Census 2000 was released for Missouri at the end of August 2002. So why was there a delay before this information became available by library district? Since library districts are not a standard area for which the U.S. Census Bureau provides information, presenting census statistics by library district is customized work. To accurately match library districts to Census 2000 data, the State Library's Missouri Census Data Center (MCDC) worked in conjunction with the Geographic Resources Center at the University of Missouri, local librarians and, in some cases, city planning departments and/or county government officials to determine the current geography of library districts.

### Geography 101: library districts

Out of the 149 public tax-supported libraries in the state, there are five consolidated, eight regional, 51 county or city-county, and 85 municipal libraries. By state statute, municipal library districts in Missouri were sealed geographically at their 1965 city boundaries if a tax-supported county library existed within the county where the municipality was located. For example, if a county library exists in a county with a population of 50,000, and there is also a municipal library in the county, the census blocks that fall within the 1965 boundaries of the municipality would have to be identified and the population within those census blocks subtracted from the county total to reflect an accurate count for both the county district and the municipal district. This means the county library district population might be 42,521—instead of the county total of 50,000—and the municipal library district population might be 7,479—instead of the town total of 7,681.

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## Public library demographics on the web

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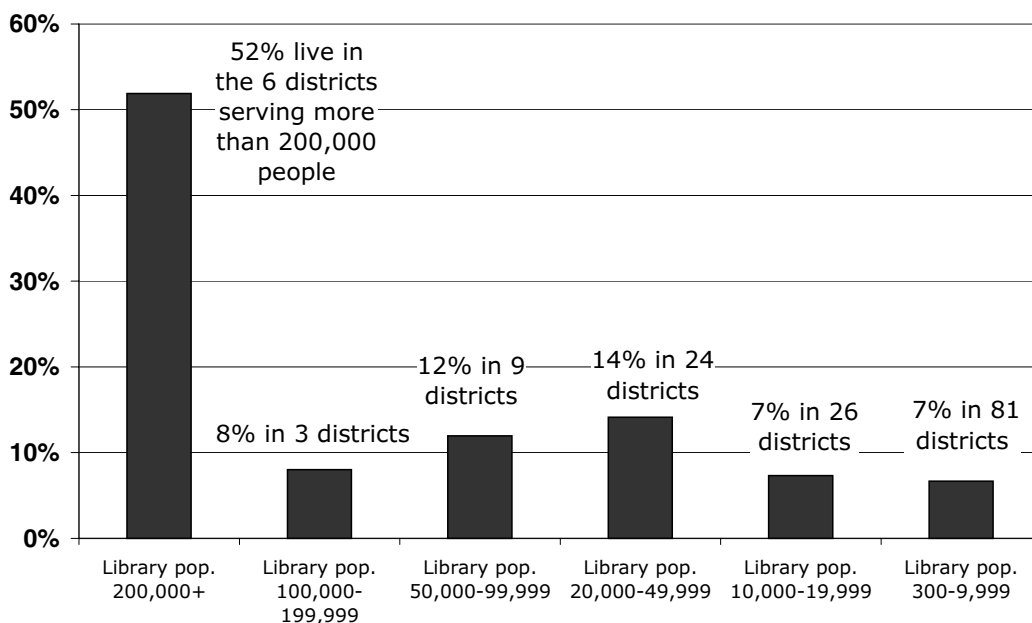
### **Librarians, libraries and demographics**

Demographic information plays an important role in community assessment and library planning. Added to this, census data are used to determine the amount of federal funding Missouri receives under the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) and to determine the amount of funding individual libraries receive from the state each year in the form of State Aid and Equalization payments.

Many library districts use census data for program planning, branch location decisions, and to strengthen grant proposals. Carol Grimes, planning and development coordinator at Springfield-Greene County Library, has used the data in a variety of ways, but finds census information extremely helpful in establishing the need for services, designing a project to reach a particular population group, and then preparing a funding proposal supported by factual data. "This is the technique that was used to fund the Community Technology Center at our Midtown Carnegie Branch. We usually combine the demographic data with other information such as survey results, a review of the literature, and a community scan, but it is an essential component of the planning process. The board of trustees, staff, the community, and foundations appreciate knowing that decisions are based upon careful research," said Grimes.

Questions about library district data may be directed to Debbie Pitts, coordinator of the Missouri Census Data Center Program at the Missouri State Library, 800-325-0131, ext. 10 in MO or 573-526-7648; e-mail: [pittsd@sosmail.state.mo.us](mailto:pittsd@sosmail.state.mo.us)).

### **Missourians who live in tax-supported public library districts by library district size**



**91 percent of Missouri's 5.6 million residents live in a tax-supported library district.**

## President Bush proposes increases for library programs

The President's Budget for FY2004 requests increases for both library and education programs. For FY2004, library program dollars allocated under the Institute for Museum and Library Services would be \$207.6 million. The budget proposes a \$15 million increase in library state grants and a \$20 million amount for library recruitment from the FY2003 budget request. The budget document states, "The Administration supports the role of libraries and museums to enhance lifelong learning..."

For programs in the Department of Education, the budget request calls for \$53 billion. Increases are in Title I, IDEA, and Pell Grants. The Improving Literacy Through School Libraries program would receive more than double the amount requested in FY2003 (\$27.5 million), which could expand the number of grants "in recognition that school libraries can play a strategic role in making information available to all students, training students and teachers about how to obtain and make use of information, and increasing access for low-income students to technology and information."

A number of education programs are scheduled for elimination including the Community Technology Centers, the National Writing Project, and Parental Assistance Information Centers. However, many of these programs have congressional support and could be reinstated in the final appropriations process.

## New Missouri history organization forms

PHAM, or the Public History Alliance of Missouri, is a new statewide educational organization formed to promote cooperation and collegiality among archivists, librarians, curators, archaeologists, and other specialists (including students) in the field of historical documents and artifacts. The organization does not charge dues at this time.

Those interested in joining the organization should contact Debbie Landi or Chris Montgomery at the State Historical Society of Missouri (573-882-7083) or David Moore at the University of Missouri-Columbia's Western Historical Manuscripts Collection (573-882-6028). The group offers an e-mail distribution list, and a website is under development.

## Virtually Missouri wins kudos

The Virtually Missouri website, a project of the State Library and the Missouri Library Network Corporation, received an excellent review in the January 2003 *College & Research Libraries News*.

The review, written by Gene Hyde of Lyon College (AR), described the site's purpose as a portal to digital collections from Missouri libraries, archives, museums, galleries, and historical societies and calls it a "valuable archival resource for researchers and students." It highlighted important collections including the Dred Scott documents, "The Decision to Drop the Atomic Bomb" from the Truman Presidential Museum & Library, the Max Hunter Folksong Collection of Springfield-Greene County Library, and those documenting Kansas City's jazz heritage and the resources of the Missouri Botanical Garden. Also noted were site features such as guidelines and standards for creating metadata, scanning images, and dealing with copyright issues.

As Hyde wrote, "Virtually Missouri is a noteworthy example of a successful, interagency digitization initiative. As such, it serves as both a model and a resource for librarians and archivists who are considering developing online access to individual or collaborative digitization projects."

## IMLS studies training for library staff

The Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) will conduct a study to identify

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## Web Watch

### Black History: Exploring African-American Issues

[www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/AfroAm.html](http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/AfroAm.html)

This site consists of six websites: Hotlist, Subject Sampler, Treasure Hunt, and WebQuests. The Hotlist is a good starting point for anyone studying African-American events and issues. Also featured is an Interactive Treasure Hunt & Quiz.

### Jo Cool or Jo Fool: An Online Game about Savvy Surfing

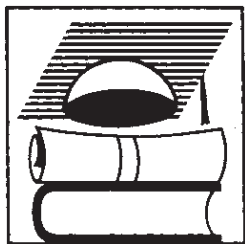
[www.mirror.media-awareness.ca/eng/webaware/2joes/johome.htm](http://www.mirror.media-awareness.ca/eng/webaware/2joes/johome.htm)

A great tool for media literacy. Offers a fun game (Jo Cool is smart, and Jo Fool gets "a face full of virtual pie") as well as a 20-question quiz and a 50-page guide in PDF to help teachers use the site.

### Who's Alive and Who's Dead

[www.wa-wd.com](http://www.wa-wd.com)

The site that helps you "keep track of which famous people have died and which are still alive!" People listed on the site include actors, musical and other performers, political figures, athletes and sports figures. They are grouped according to the accomplishments for which they are best known.



### Top issues for academic libraries

1. Recruitment, education, and retention of librarians
2. Role of library in academic enterprise
3. Impact of information technology on library services
4. Creation, control, and preservation of digital resources
5. Chaos in scholarly communication
6. Support of new users
7. Higher education funding

Source: College and Research Libraries News, November 2002

## IMLS studies training

(continued from page 3)

fy and analyze education and training programs for non-MLS-degreed library staff in the U.S. (e.g., pre-professional, paraprofessional, library technicians, media specialists).

Although the basic credential for professional library service is the masters in library science, non-master-degreed library staff perform a range of duties in an array of settings—public, academic, school, and special libraries—throughout the country. Their responsibilities continue to evolve as libraries increase their use of new technologies. IMLS is responding to the library community's need to answer questions about what training opportunities exist to prepare this essential library worker.

IMLS has hired Caliber Associates to produce an inventory of training opportunities. A national list of courses and programs is currently being compiled using Web-based research and consultation with library leaders. Detailed information about program and course offerings will be gathered using a Web-based survey this spring.

IMLS will release a report analyzing the findings and identifying characteristics of successful programs in late summer 2003.

## Tracking 100 years of social change

At the start of the 20th century, most of the U.S. population was male, under 23 years old, lived outside metropolitan areas and rented their homes. Nearly half lived in a household with five or more other persons.

One hundred years later, most of the population was female, at least 35 years old, lived in metro areas and owned their homes. Most lived alone or in a household with one or two other people.

And the U.S. population grew by more than 205 million people during the century, more than tripling from 76 million in 1900 to 281 million in 2000.

These are some of the broad-scale changes included in a new Census Bureau

special report. The report analyzes data gathered in 11 censuses stretching from 1900 to 2000. The subjects covered are from the Census 2000 short-form questionnaire. Titled *Demographic Trends in the 20th Century*, the report tracks trends in population, housing and household data for the nation, regions, and states.

The 240-page report, including graphs and maps, may be accessed on the Internet at [www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/censr-4.pdf](http://www.census.gov/prod/2002pubs/censr-4.pdf).

## St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies

The Thirtieth Annual St. Louis Conference on Manuscript Studies will be held at St. Louis University's Vatican Film Library on October 10-11, 2003. Guest speakers will include Lucy Freeman Sandler and Jonathan J.G. Alexander, both from New York University.

Papers are invited for the October conference in areas such as paleography, illumination, binding, library history, reading and literacy, codicology, book production, and diplomatics. A one-page abstract is required by May 1, 2002, to the Vatican Film Library, Pius XII Memorial Library, St. Louis University, 3650 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108-3302; fax: 314-977-3090; e-mail: [vfl@slu.edu](mailto:vfl@slu.edu). Papers should be no longer than 20 minutes in length.

The Vatican Film Library and Manuscripta annually host the conference, known familiarly as the Manuscripta Conference. The conference has no set theme and serves as a general forum for manuscript scholars to meet and discuss their work with colleagues.

## Supreme Court rules on copyright term extension

On January 15, 2003, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld, by a vote of seven to two, the constitutionality of the Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act. The act, passed by Congress in 1998, extends the copyright term for an additional 20 years, so that a



commercially produced work is now governed by the provisions of copyright law for 96 years; for an individual's work, the term is "life of the author" plus 70 years.

In *Eldred v. Ashcroft*, the Court held that Congress acted within its authority under the Constitution's Copyright Clause when it expanded the term of protection. The Court held that it "was not at liberty to second-guess congressional determinations and policy judgments of this order, however debatable or arguably unwise they may be." The Court also rejected arguments against the Act under the First Amendment. In doing so, Justice Ginsburg, writing for the majority, noted that the Copyright Act's "fair use" provision provides a "built-in" First Amendment accommodation. Two justices, Stevens and Breyer, filed separate dissenting opinions in which they expressed strong disagreement with the majority's holding.

The five major national library associations and 10 other groups had submitted an *amici curiae* (friend of the court) brief in support of the challengers to the Act.

## Taproots promotes book arts and literacy in St. Louis

Taproots School of the Arts is the only venue in the St. Louis region that offers professional studio space and equipment for rent, instruction for all levels, and a supportive community for the book arts. It also holds an annual Book Arts Fair in the Spring.

The school's mission is to advance the book as a vital contemporary art form, preserving the traditions of bookmaking and paper crafts while providing an environment for learning, production, experimentation, development, and collaborative experience. The school serves the metropolitan St. Louis area with classes and workshops for adults and children. Its hallmark children's program, "Literacy Through the Book Arts," is offered both at Taproots and at schools, libraries, and other institutions. A companion project involves teacher trainings for all grades to facilitate the spread of

book arts across the curriculum. Taproots also offers customized hands-on workshops and demonstrations, including "Art Parties." Studio rentals, artist-in-residence programs, and teaching opportunities are available for qualified artists. The school is in the process of creating a traveling exhibit of student work to place in local library branches.

For additional information about the book fair or the Center's activities, contact Alice Taylor at [actaylor@goinet.com](mailto:actaylor@goinet.com).

## Missouri author interviews debut on the Web

The Missouri Center for the Book will launch a monthly interview series, "Missouri Author E-views," on its website at <http://books.missouri.org>. The series will begin in March 2003 with an interview with Lisa Campbell Ernst, a nationally known author and illustrator of more than 50 children's books who lives in Independence. In the following months, authors of books for children, young adults, and adults will be featured on the Center's website. The authors will be interviewed by members of the Missouri Center's board of directors familiar with a particular author's work or by individuals knowledgeable about an author's work. Interviews have been scheduled through the end of the year.

The interviews will be archived on the Missouri Center's website.

## State Library supports HeadsUp! Reading

The State Library joins several statewide organizations in supporting the HeadsUp! Reading initiative in Missouri. HeadsUp! Reading is a free 30-hour interactive distance learning course delivered via live, interactive broadcasts over satellite television at locations throughout the state. This delivery system enables learners to speak directly with the national faculty.

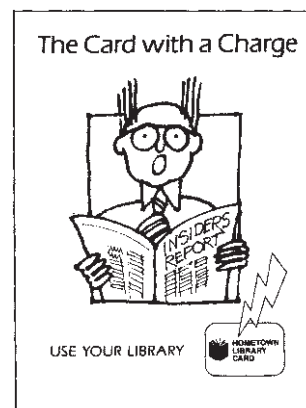
The course provides teachers, childcare

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## Free library Spanish & English phrase lists

The Learning Light has recently updated its website to include several resource materials of interest to libraries with Spanish-speaking patrons, including the Library Phrase Lists. Also available on the site are hand-outs on Dewey classification and "Basic English for the Library," flashcards from the "Spanish that Works in the Library" course, which includes basic greetings and a reference sheet on the numbers with a pronunciation guide. The website address is: [www.thelearninglight.com](http://www.thelearninglight.com)

The materials are in PDF format and may be found on the Spanish that Works main page under the "Free Materials" link. Other helpful information are an "English within Reach" page and a "Learning on Your Own" page.



## Virtually Missouri update

Ten new collections and online exhibits have been added to "Digitized Collections" on the Virtually Missouri website.

The St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri-St. Louis has added its Special Collections, the Herman T. Pott National Inland Waterways Library, and the John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library. The Miller Nichols Library at the University of Missouri-Kansas City offers its "Voices of World War II: Experiences from the Front and the Home Front." The University of Missouri Museum of Anthropology offers several exhibits: "Archers' Thumb Rings," "Equatorial Africa," "Japanese Carvings," the Patrick Collection, and "The Nang: Thai Shadow Puppets."

New to the Digitized Collections page are links to the St. Louis Walk of Fame, which provides a showcase for the cultural heritage of St. Louis.

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providers, parents, and parent educators with the latest research on how children learn to read and write. It focuses on phonemic awareness, letter identification, and print awareness.

Missouri is the fifth state in the nation to develop a statewide HeadsUp! Reading network.

Planning and coordination for the course is being provided by the State Library, Literacy Investment For Tomorrow (LIFT-MO), the Parents As Teachers National Center, Inc., the Department of Social Services, and regional organizations. Funding comes from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Head Start State Collaboration Office, and the Missouri Head Start Association.

## ReadMOre author Paulette Jiles visits Missouri

Paulette Jiles, a Missouri native and author of the 2003 ReadMOre selection, *Enemy Women*, will tour the state to discuss her highly acclaimed debut novel in March.

ReadMOre project coordinator Kathleen Nigro calls *Enemy Women* "an extraordinary story of survival and unexpected love, set in a time of vicious guerilla warfare. The Civil War in Missouri is not as well known as the war in the eastern front, and this is an opportunity for us to rediscover our history."

Missourians of all ages are preparing to read and discuss *Enemy Women*. Public and private schools are participating in the program, incorporating the book into their literature and history classes. Many reading groups and book clubs, both public and private, are also planning book discussions. Adult literacy organizations, including Literacy Investment for Tomorrow (LIFT) are providing audio versions of the book and discussion programs to adult literacy students. Again this year, ReadMOre activities and a discussion guide will be posted on the

Missouri Humanities Council website at [www.mohumanities.org](http://www.mohumanities.org).

ReadMOre activities will continue throughout the remainder of 2003. The Jefferson National Expansion Memorial (which includes both the Arch and the Old Courthouse) will host an exhibit of Missouri Civil War artifacts and photographs throughout the month of April, with park rangers conducting tours of Civil War-related sites in the vicinity.

ReadMOre is a collaborative effort by Missouri public libraries, bookstores, and related organizations.

## New SOS Council members named

Secretary of State Matt Blunt has appointed eight new members to the Secretary's Council on Library Development. The new members represent various library constituencies, the general public, and the legislature. They include:

- ◆ Dr. Curt Fuchs, Director of Technology and School Libraries, Columbia Public Schools
- ◆ Shirley Baker, Dean of University Library Services, Washington University, St. Louis
- ◆ Charles Norwald, Warrenton (representing citizens)
- ◆ Martha Hogerty, Kansas City (representing citizens)
- ◆ Leigh Ann Brown, Carthage (representing library trustees)
- ◆ George Rickerson, Executive Director of MOBIUS, Columbia
- ◆ Representative Trent Skaggs, North Kansas City
- ◆ Tom Shaw, Liberal (representing library trustees)

The Secretary's Council advises the Secretary of State and the State Librarian on matters relating to Missouri libraries and library service. The council meets quarterly to discuss the use of federal library funds, set policies and guidelines for grants, and recommend programs.

*The following article appeared in newspapers across the state:*

## Promises made should be promises kept

Strong public libraries help build strong communities. Ready access to the knowledge in libraries fosters higher achievement among youngsters, expands the store of knowledge for adults, improves the quality of life, and enhances our culture.

Missourians care about their public libraries. Missouri's library patrons exceed the national average in library visits per capita, in the circulation of books and in reference questions presented to library staff.

But our libraries are being shortchanged. A promise is being broken. Public libraries are not receiving dedicated funds that were promised for the purchase of books.

Here is the background: When the legislature created the Out of State Athletes and Entertainers' Income Tax in 1998, the law said the proceeds would be divided among five programs, including public libraries. This levy applies to professional athletes, teams, and entertainers who earn money from events in Missouri, but do not live here.

The state will collect more than \$22 million this year from this tax. By law, 10 percent, or \$2.2 million, is to go to public libraries for books. For three years in a row, however, libraries have not received their promised share of these funds. State government made a promise, but did not keep it. The funds promised to libraries were diverted to other uses, and library funding fell short. Today, the promise is being broken entirely. This year, libraries will receive none of the revenue generated from the professional athletes and entertainers tax, even though the money has been collected.

To correct this situation, I have asked the governor to restore these funds to the budget for the Secretary of State, for distribution to local libraries. The governor needs to make this change in the budget he presents to the state legislature.

With the reduced funds received in the past, libraries have bought books for children, books that help young people learn, books about jobs, businesses and life skills, books for leisure reading, and books that help us treasure our culture and understand the past. These funds have helped librarians develop new sections of books for teens, seniors, and new immigrants, and to replace damaged books. The patrons of small and medium-sized libraries have been the leading beneficiaries.

The Missouri Constitution and laws mandate that the state help support public libraries. We live at a time when an informed and educated citizenry is becoming ever more important. Libraries have expanded their delivery of technology and computer services, offering a variety of electronic services to their users. This is appropriate, and library patrons seek such services. But it is not without cost, obviously.

It is no credit to the General Assembly when it passes legislation that is then ignored. Jefferson City needs to keep faith with public libraries and patrons, and honor the dedication of resources to books for the people. It is past time that funds designated for libraries be appropriated to libraries. It is past time that Jefferson City keep this promise.

More than five million Missourians enjoy public library service, one of America's most respected and cherished public services. In keeping this promise, we will be keeping a promise to ourselves: that Missouri will have a strong and vibrant system of public libraries serving all the people.

*Secretary of State Matt Blunt*



## New Letters 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Literary Awards

Three \$1,000 awards for creative writing will be offered by *New Letters*, published at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and one of the country's most distinguished literary journals. This competition has been internationally recognized for the high quality of the work submitted and for the fairness and efficiency of its judging process. Some of the previous judges were Joyce Carol Oates, Philip Levine, Richard Rhodes, Rosellen Brown, and Phillip Lopate.

The awards include: The New Letters Poetry Award honors the best group of three to six poems, The Dorothy Churchill Cappon Creative Nonfiction Award for the best work of creative nonfiction, and The Alexander Patterson Cappon Fiction Award for the best short story.

Winners will be announced in mid-September 2002. The work of winners will be published in *New Letters*. For awards guidelines, go to <http://cctr.umkc.edu/~newsletters/awards00.htm> Deadline is May 20, 2003.





## Missouri Library News

**newsline** welcomes information for "Missouri Library News" and "Personal Notes" from librarians, library trustees, and others interested in the state's libraries. Send news about library events, projects, awards, and personnel changes to the editor. (See page 2 for contact information.)

### Mid-Continent Public Library airs weekly webcast

InfoRadio is Mid-Continent Public Library's new streaming MP3 webcast, hosted by Steven Campbell, manager of the library's South Independence Branch. Campbell is joined for each weekly program by a guest co-host to talk about books, websites, and other resources on a given topic. The pre-recorded program also features an interview with an author, representative of a website or organization, or a person presenting a program "behind the books" at the library. Recent programs have focused on voter education, automobile repair and maintenance, and wedding planning. Check out [www.inforadio.org](http://www.inforadio.org) for upcoming programs.

### Cole Camp library receives large donation

A generous donation from Carol Junge-Loomis and her mother, Mildred Junge, will enable the Cole Camp Branch of Boonslick Regional Library to begin the planning process for a new building. The women made a \$100,000 donation to the library and plan to make additional gifts as the project is under way.

Loomis is editor-at-large of *Fortune* magazine in New York City. Her maiden name is Junge, and the new library at Cole Camp will be called the Junge Memorial Library, in honor of her father, Harold Junge.

The Boonslick library board is working with a Cole Camp Advisory Group, which was formed to help the library board with the building project. The 1,700-square-foot branch is currently housed in a 104-year-old building which the library owns. The advisory group will first look for land to site a 4,000- to 6,000-square-foot building with

adequate parking. Groundbreaking for the new library will take place in the spring.

Linda Allcorn, Boonslick library director, says a new facility will relieve the serious congestion and overcrowding of the branch and is expected to cost about a half-million dollars.

### UMC offers "Art of the Book" exhibit

The University of Missouri-Columbia Museum of Art and Archaeology is home to an exhibit titled "The Art of the Book 1000-1650" which features a large number of pieces from the rare book collections of the MU Libraries.

The exhibit focuses on the history, structure, and character of books from 1000 AD to 1650 AD. In addition to many early printed books, the exhibit includes beautiful medieval manuscript pages from the Libraries' Fragmenta Manuscripta collection and a page from the Gutenberg Bible.

The museum is located in Pickard Hall on the Francis Quadrangle; its hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. The exhibit will close May 25, 2003.

### Longtime volunteer leaves major gift to Branson library

Branson's Taneyhills Community Library has received \$275,000 from the estate of Juanita Delcene Thompson, who died in May 2002. The bequest, designated for the library's trust fund, is the largest gift in the library's 70-year history.

Thompson was a member of the Taneyhills Library Club for 62 years and served terms as secretary and president. The club was founded in 1933 by a group of young women who wanted to bring library service to the area. She also served as president of the Branson Civic League for 20 years.

Thompson designated her bequest to be used for the library's trust fund. The fund was established in 1987 with the goal of eventually generating enough capital to pay the cost of library operation from interest funds.



## St. Louis County Library introduces unique reading program for children

In January, St. Louis County Library let the dogs “teach” children to read in a new program titled “Whiskers & Tales.” Volunteers from the St. Louis Chapter of Love on a Leash and the Humane Society Visiting Pets bring dogs to the Oak Bend and Rock Road branches for special programs. During the programs, children ages six to 11 sign up on a first-come, first-served basis to get 15 to 20 minutes to read to a dog.

“Whiskers & Tales” is a way to foster literacy in children using therapy pets as a tool, according to Karen Green, Love on a Leash chapter coordinator. “Dogs are non-judgmental, non-threatening listeners. Children with low self-esteem are often more willing to interact with an animal than another person; it’s less intimidating. An animal won’t scold you if you get it wrong,” Green said. The all-volunteer Love on a Leash is a national organization with local chapters that offer pet-provided therapy to special groups and facilities in communities.

## Federal funding benefits Kansas City library project

U.S. Senator Kit Bond has announced that \$1,000,000 in federal funding will support infrastructure improvements in the Library District in downtown Kansas City. The appropriation will benefit the new Central Library Project by funding library garage and district streetscape enhancements that would not have been possible without the allocation.

Bond’s announcement came on the heels of another significant civic commitment to the Library District. The Greater Downtown Development Authority has recommended a \$5 million allocation to the library garage and district landscaping from a general obligation bond approved by Kansas City voters last fall.

The enhancements made possible by the City of Kansas City and Senator Bond will

make a significant difference in ensuring the quality and success of the Central Library Project as well as the residential development areas in the Library District.

The Central Library Project is made possible through a public-private partnership with the Kansas City Public Library, Downtown Council, and Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. Project costs total \$49.5 million and will result in a new, state-of-the-art Central Library through the adaptive reuse of the First National Bank Building. This landmark building and its reuse as a Central Library within a historic district is at the heart of a plan to reenergize urban development in Kansas City.

## Cass County Library hosts classes for home schoolers

It started with a parent wanting to learn and teach the Dewey Decimal System to her children and grew into regular monthly programs for parents and children who home-school. Cass County Library’s Harrisonville Branch has teamed with the library’s genealogy branch and the Cass County Historical Society to offer speakers, resources, and activities at the library for the home-school population. The program began small but once library staff found out the population of parents and children who could use library services, they began planning more extensive programming.

Branch librarian Teresa Foss said the program is very popular, with audiences of 50 not uncommon. She has tried to schedule programs on different aspects of curriculum and to keep the format flexible. Students can listen to a speaker, attend a workshop, do a hands-on project; they can stay for all or part of a program. Recent programs have included poetry, creative writing, the Civil War, blacksmithing, and historical dress. The library has added paid speakers and is looking at programs developed by museums.

“Those kids are in here and involved up to their elbows,” Foss said. “We turn them loose and they work on their projects. They have a blast and learn about the library

## Non-native speakers in the library

Non-English speakers will probably borrow videos first, then audio books, as they learn to use their library.

There are 97 native languages spoken by students in Missouri, according to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

People from some cultures, such as China and Chile, are not familiar with public libraries.

Good cultural displays are recommended for reaching people from other countries.

*Source: Springfield-Greene County Library*



without even knowing it. We are meeting a need and desire for an entire population.”



## Historic Carnegie branches re-open in St. Joseph

St. Joseph Public Library held grand re-opening ceremonies in December 2002 for its renovated Carnegie branches—the Carnegie Branch (pictured at top) and the Washington Park Branch. Each branch is located in a residential area, in the middle of a park.

The century-old Carnegie Branch opened on December 1, 1902, and re-opened December 1, 2002. It serves the city's south side. The Washington Park Branch has served the city's north side since 1910.

The extensive improvements to both branches included new lighting, carpet, paint, shelving, restrooms, heating and air-conditioning systems, and restoration of some “nostalgia” pieces. Elevators were installed in both buildings, and the branches are now handicap accessible.

## Springfield-Greene County Library expands program for homebound

The Walking Books outreach program at Springfield-Greene County Library has added a new service that pairs a “Book Buddy” with a specific homebound patron. Walking Books is a 16-year-old program that delivers books, videos, audio books, music CDs, and audiocassettes to Greene County patrons who have a physical disability that prevents them from getting to a library. Twelve volunteer drivers make bi-weekly and monthly deliveries to patrons.

A Book Buddy is given a homebound patron's preferences and a list of materials he or she has already checked out. Then, once or twice a month, the Book Buddy chooses new items to be delivered to the patron by volunteer drivers. “It's a small investment of time for those who don't have much time to give but really like to recommend books,” said Linda Agee, Walking Books coordinator. Selection can be done in the Outreach Services Department, at a branch library, or online through the library's catalog.

With more Walking Books patrons signing up every week, Agee and collection assistant Nancy Danielsen need help making the personalized selections for which the program is known. The program currently serves about 170 people.

## UMKC library staff organize media center at rescue mission

The Kansas City Rescue Mission called on staff from the Miller Nichols Library at the University of Missouri-Kansas City for help with a few library matters. The mission has opened a new library and computer lab to afford mission residents access to reading material, basic computer training, and preparatory software to assist them in GED study and acquisition. Computers and books have been donated to the media center from individuals and organizations throughout the community. The center has 11 PC work sta-

tions and a LINUX server that runs the network. Books had been stored in rooms and closets, and when the center was completed, the 3,000-book collection was amassed on shelves with little organization.

The Center for the City at UMKC contacted the library to request help for the mission library, and two UMKC library staff members, Judith Bray and Ray Barker, volunteered to work on the project. (The Center for the City, a UMKC faculty group, fosters UMKC/community partnerships, focuses on the center-city, and promotes civic engagement of students). Bray and Barker designed a color coding system with a check-out sheet that makes re-shelving easier for mission volunteers and keeps a record of borrowers. The system is being implemented by volunteers and library staff members Amy Dobek and Frank Dalrymple.

## Polk County Library starts book discussion series

"Book an Adventure with Lewis and Clark" is the theme of a new book discussion series sponsored by the Friends of the Polk County Library—Bolivar Inc. The entire series will focus on the book *Undaunted Courage* by Stephen Ambrose. The book follows the Lewis and Clark Expedition from Thomas Jefferson's plan to explore the continent to Lewis's death after the expedition. Dr. Robert Gudmestad, chair of the history and political science department at Southwest Baptist University, will be the discussion leader.

Young readers at Shook Elementary School in Marshfield found a unique way to promote some of their favorite books. The Shook Book Club created a quilt featuring the 2001-2002 Mark Twain Award nominees. Individual blocks carry the title and author of a nominated work and an illustration rendered in colored marker by the students. When their creation was complete, the club voted to donate the quilt to the Webster County Library to hang in the new youth wing at Garst Memorial Library. There are 34 members and four faculty sponsors in the club.



Pre-school and kindergarten students made a book about apples as part of "Family Night" activities at the Grundy County-Jewett Norris Library. The library and S.M. Rissler Elementary School teamed up for the program, which includes a parent/child reading time as well as separate time for the children and a speaker for the parents. Family Night programs are funded by the State Library. Pictured above are Nick Bass and Rissler instructor Marjorie Keuhn. (Trenton Republican-Times photo by Diane Raynes)



## New Alexandria Library for the digital age

Linking the past to the future, Egypt's Alexandria Library showcases priceless Middle Eastern artifacts and 200 Hewlett-Packard PCs containing digital copies of nearly every public webpage posted since 1996. Among its treasures, the new library now owns a copy of the Internet Archive, developed by Brewster Kahle in San Francisco.

Impressed by the development of the Alexandria library and the growth of the country's technology industry, Kahle donated a copy of the archive and a book scanner so the library could begin digitizing its own collection. The library is but one component of the country's entry into the high-tech world. Egypt's three-year-old Ministry of Communications and Information Technology is building a technology industry from scratch, creating its own version of Silicon Valley—a 300-acre tech park—between Cairo and Alexandria.





## Personal Notes

### Safeguarding patrons' privacy video

A video kit from the December 11, 2002, teleconference sponsored by five national library associations provides libraries and their governing institutions with an analysis of the implications of recent anti-terrorism legislation. Panelists address key legal issues and policy implications for libraries and the impact of legislative and regulatory proposals on the privacy of library users.

The 120-minute videotape and manual titled "Safeguarding Our Patrons' Privacy" is \$35.00 plus \$10.00 shipping from: ARL Publications Distribution Center, PO Box 531, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701-0531.



**Susanna Alexander**, former associate state librarian of Missouri, died March 4, 2003, in Columbia. She leaves a legacy of distinguished service to the people of Missouri and to the library profession.

Alexander's library career in Missouri encompassed almost 40 years. In 1945, she became assistant librarian for the James Memorial Library in St. James. Four years later, she moved to Columbia where she worked at the Stephens College Library in various capacities until 1955 when she was named director of the Columbia Public Library. She directed the Columbia library for 10 years, established its bookmobile service and services to the disabled, and promoted the establishment of the Daniel Boone Regional Library in 1959. She came to the State Library in 1965 as director of field services and was named associate state librarian in 1966.

At the State Library, Alexander was responsible for all internal operations and worked closely with the state librarian to set the direction of the library. Her external role involved working with library organizations, library trustees, educators, and civic groups, and it was this role for which she gained recognition throughout the state. She retired in 1982, but remained interested in and followed library development in Missouri.

Alexander was active in both state and national library organizations. She was president and treasurer of the Missouri Library Association and served on the American Li-

brary Association's Council and its Committee on Accreditation.

Alexander earned an M.A. in library science from the University of Denver, a B.S. from Northwestern University (IL), and an A.A. from Stephens College. She received many awards during her career, among them the Beta Phi Mu Award and the Stephens College Alumnae Achievement Award.

Richard Miller, a former State Library staff member who succeeded Alexander, remembered her as representing "the best librarianship has to offer." "She somehow made everyone feel important no matter their background, education, or station in life. She understood that one cannot just be 'all business' but that one must recognize that people had lives outside the library as well. She will be remembered by me and by many others who owe her so much—both personally and professionally for what she did to promote and improve library services for all Missourians."

**Krista Jones Adams** has been appointed consultant for statewide and community partnerships at the State Library. She was most recently assistant director of development for Boys & Girls Town of Missouri in Springfield. Her duties at that organization involved recruiting donors for new and ongoing programs, developing grants, and coordinating special events. She also has experience as a communications assistant for state officials.

Adams holds a B.S. in communications from Southwest Missouri State University.

**Joseph H. Green** has been selected as the new director of the Kansas City Public Library, effective March 10. He succeeds Dan Bradbury, who retired at the beginning of the year after 19 years as director of the library.

Green comes from California where he serves as director of the Richmond (CA) Public Library. He has been the city librarian in Richmond since 1996 (The city of Richmond is in the San Francisco Bay Area). Before Richmond, Green was director of the Nassau Library System in Union-



dale, New York, and worked in library systems in New Jersey, Maryland, and New Hampshire.

He received a B.A. in English from American International College in Springfield (MA) and an M.L.S. from Emory University (GA).

“Joseph Green is a seasoned library administrator who brings years of professional experience to Kansas City,” said Olivia Dorsey, president of the library’s board of trustees. “The trustees were impressed by his history of collaboration with community groups and his enthusiasm for the position.”

**Stephanie Tolson** has joined the staff of St. Charles Community College as dean of learning resources. The learning resource department includes the library, media department, and responsibilities for the coordination of distance learning courses. She comes to St. Charles County from St. Louis where she served as library director for the Florissant Valley campus of St. Louis Community College.

Tolson earned a B.A. in economics from Park University and an M.L.S. from Emporia State University (KS). She is currently working on the completion of a doctorate in higher education administration at St. Louis University. She has more than 25 years of experience in academic and corporate libraries and currently serves on the board of directors for the Special Libraries Association.

**Rick Simoncelli** has been appointed the first president of the St. Louis Public Library Foundation, effective April 1. The foundation, originally established in 1990, was created to raise funds and undertake other enterprises for literary and education purposes exclusively to support and benefit the St. Louis Public Library.

With the appointment of a president, the foundation has taken on a new vigor to obtain a dream of enhancing the library’s cultural appeal. As president, Simoncelli will develop and execute the long-term strategic goals and objectives set by the foundation, including the implementation of fund devel-

opment, community outreach, and advocacy programs.

Simoncelli has been an assistant director at the St. Louis Art Museum since 1985, where he has performed a broad range of responsibilities in the areas of public affairs, administration, and operations. Prior to his work at the art museum, he served as the executive director of the Missouri Arts Council.

**Mary Beth Revels** is the new director of St. Joseph Public Library. She had been serving as the library’s interim director since November 2001 and before that served as a reference librarian at the main library.

Revels holds a B.A. in business and an M.L.S. from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

**Patricia Lamb** has been named director of Rolling Hills Consolidated Library, St. Joseph. Before her appointment, she was director of the Lebanon-Laclede County Library. She also served as director of the former Current River Regional Library, administrator of the former Southeast Missouri Library Network, and as a school librarian in Seymour.

Lamb received a B.S. in library science and an M.L.S. from the University of Missouri-Columbia.


St. Louis County Library has made several new branch manager appointments: **Diana Fox** at the Bridgeton Trails Branch, **Marion Sood** at the Florissant Valley Branch, **Eric Button** at the Daniel Boone Branch, and **Mary Jo Tuchsmidt** at the Rock Road Branch. All have worked in various library branches before their new appointments.

**Anitra Steele**, children’s services specialist at Mid-Continent Public Library, has been selected to serve on the 2003 Caldecott Award Committee. The Caldecott Medal was named in honor of 19th-century English illustrator Randolph Caldecott. It is awarded annually by the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association, to the artist

## MLA award nominations invited

Each year, the Missouri Library Association presents nine awards to institutions or individuals who have made lasting contributions to libraries in the state. The awards honor meritorious achievement, literary excellence, outstanding new librarians and library employees, public relations achievement, excellence in librarianship, outstanding service to the profession, and a legislator who has shown exceptional support for Missouri libraries.

Nomination forms are available on the MLA website ([www.molib.org/Awards.html](http://www.molib.org/Awards.html)) along with descriptions of each award. The deadline for 2003 nominations is June 3. To submit a nomination or for additional information, contact Betty Martin, Awards Committee Chair, Cape Girardeau Public Library, at [sct000@mail.connect.more.net](mailto:sct000@mail.connect.more.net) or 573-334-5279.



More Personal  
Notes

## Tips for Spanish-language library websites

The following tips come from Wanda Reinford, a reference librarian at the San Antonio Public Library. She completed an extensive search of Spanish-language online information in all 50 states and libraries providing online information in Spanish.

If you're providing Spanish-language information on your library website, don't expect your Spanish-speaking patron to dig deeply into your site to find it; a link directly from your homepage is ideal.

If you provide a variety of Spanish-language resources on your website (catalog, library card application, recommended weblinks, etc.), please provide one page where all these resources are linked together.

Try not to use the terms "Spanish" and "Hispanic/Latino" interchangeably in categorizing your recommended weblinks. And if you are providing Spanish-language weblinks for your Spanish-speaking patrons, with annotations, provide either bilingual or Spanish annotations if at all possible. (The same would be true for other kinds of Spanish-language resources you provide).

Reinford has also compiled U.S. public library websites with information in Spanish; it is available on the REFORMA resources page at [www.reforma.org/spanish-websites.htm](http://www.reforma.org/spanish-websites.htm). Libraries are listed alphabetically by state, and the Spanish-language sites are divided into three categories: general information, Spanish-language weblinks, and other resources.

of the most distinguished American picture book for children.

**Kay Rader** has been appointed manager of development for the St. Louis County Library. Her 25 years of library experience in public, academic, and special libraries includes work in children's services, technical services, reference, public services, and public library administration. She has been a library consultant in Washington, DC, a library project manager for the United Nations in Somalia, and director of the American Library in Paris.

Rader holds a B.A. in English and an M.L.S. from the University of Maryland. She is a Missouri native.

**Janice Cox-Proffitt** has retired as director of the Ray County Library. She began at the library as a children's librarian in 1975 and was appointed library director in 1998. She was honored at a special ceremony at the Richmond City Hall where Mayor Ed Lee Swafford declared February 6, 2003, as "Janice G. (Cox) Proffitt Day" in Richmond and read a proclamation in appreciation for her years of service to the community. The *Richmond Daily News* also published an editorial honoring Cox-Proffitt's work and noting that she "touched the lives of so many throughout the years and deserved the recognition that was bestowed upon her."



## 2003 children's and young adult book awards

Winners of the major national book awards for children and young adults were announced at the 2003 American Library Association Midwinter Meeting in January.

**Newbery Award:** Avi received the John Newbery Medal for *Crispin: The Cross of*

*Lead* (Hyperion Books for Children), a coming-of-age novel set in the 14th century. The author of more than 50 books for young people, Avi has earned numerous awards, and his work is revered by children of all ages.

Five Newbery Honor Books were named: *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer, *Pictures of Hollis Woods* by Patricia Reilly Giff, *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen, *A Corner of the Universe* by Ann M. Martin, and *Surviving the Applewhites* by Stephanie S. Tolan.

**Caldecott Award:** Eric Rohmann received the Randolph Caldecott Medal for *My Friend Rabbit* (Roaring Brook Press/The Millbrook Press), a lighthearted celebration of a friendship. Rohmann is the author and illustrator of two previous children's books. He is a painter, printmaker, and fine book-maker.

Three Caldecott Honor Books were named: *The Spider and the Fly* illustrated by Tony DiTerlizzi, written by Mary Howitt, *Hondo & Fabian*, illustrated and written by Peter McCarty, and *Noah's Ark* illustrated and written by Jerry Pinkney.

**King Award:** Nikki Grimes, author of *Bronx Masquerade* (Dial Books for Young Readers) and E.B. Lewis, illustrator and author of *Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman* (Orchard Books/Scholastic) won the Coretta Scott King Awards honoring African-American authors and illustrators of outstanding books for children and young adults.

Two King Author Honor Books were selected: *Talking About Bessie: The Story of Aviator Elizabeth Coleman* by Grimes and *The Red Rose Box* by Brenda Woods. Two King Illustrator Honor Books were selected: *Rap A Tap Tap: Here's Bojangles—Think of That*, illustrated and written by Leo and Diane Dillon, and *Visiting Langston*, illustrated by Bryan Collier and written by Willie Perdomo.

Janet McDonald, author of *Chill Wind*, is the Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe New Talent (text) Award, and Randy DuBurke, il-

illustrator of *The Moon Ring* is the Steptoe New Talent (illustrator) Award. Occasionally awarded, the King/Steptoe award affirms new talent and offers visibility to excellence in writing and/or illustration at the beginning of a career as a published children's book creator.

**Prinz Award:** Aidan Chambers won the Michael L. Printz Award for *Postcards from No Man's Land* (Dutton Books/Penguin Putnam inc.). Chambers lives in England, and his previous young adult works have been acclaimed by critics on both sides of the Atlantic. Postcards won the British Carnegie Medal, and Chambers received the Hans Christian Andersen Award 2002 for the body of his work.

Three Printz Honor Books were named: *Hole in My Life* by Jack Gantos, *My Heartbeat* by Garret Freymann-Weyr, and *The House of the Scorpion* by Nancy Farmer.

## Literacy news update

✿ The Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center in East Prairie, Missouri, is one of five programs nationwide invited to take part in a pilot project that is the result of a partnership between the National Institute for Literacy and the National Center for Family Literacy. The Equipped for the Future (EEF) Reading Project will create a train-the-trainer model to support family literacy programs in integrating scientifically-based reading instructions with the EEF approach to teaching and learning. The four other family literacy programs invited to participate in this training are all from the East Coast.

✿ Target is sponsoring a new national reading program in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education. "Ready, Sit, Read!" encourages parents and caregivers to develop a love of reading in their children. The program offers information on parenting and teaching children to read (check the Community Giving section of [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)) and Target-sponsored community events and parades. In the spring, Target will present \$10,000 to 25

K-12 schools to help set up or enhance their libraries. Program details will be posted on the Target website.

✿ The merger of the world's two largest adult volunteer literacy organizations is complete, and Laubach Literacy International and Literacy Volunteers of America, Inc. have become ProLiteracy Worldwide.

✿ ProLiteracy Worldwide has programs in 45 developing countries as well as in the U.S. where it represents some 1,450 adult volunteer literacy organizations. Until the merger, literacy advocates have not spoken with one voice on behalf of adult learners—either internationally or domestically.

The organization serves more than 350,000 adult new learners around the world each year.

## Major changes under way for talking books

The National Library Service is in the midst of a full-scale transition from analog audio cassettes to digital talking books, a project that will involve converting approximately 30,000 titles (about 10 percent of the NLS collection) from analog tape recordings to master digital recordings and developing a digital playback device to replace the four-track tape player that has been in service for nearly three decades. NLS has approximately 730,000 audio cassette players in use worldwide and maintains an inventory of more than 23 million cassettes containing audio books and magazines that it circulates free of charge to blind and physically handicapped readers.

A complete overview of NLS's digital conversion project may be accessed on the NLS website at [www.loc.gov/nls](http://www.loc.gov/nls).

Watch your mail and the Web for information about the State Library's spring marketing workshops!

## Upcoming Events



**March is Women's History Month and Small Press Month**

**March 9-11**  
35<sup>th</sup> Children's Literature Festival  
Warrensburg

**March 16**  
Freedom of Information Day

**March 19-20**  
MOREnet Spring Technical Conference  
Columbia

**March 30-April 1**  
Missouri Association of School Librarians Spring Conference  
Osage Beach

**April 2**  
International Children's Book Day

**April 4**  
Secretary of State's Committee Meeting on Services to Disabled Missourians  
Jefferson City

**April 6-12**  
National Library Week

**April 10**  
International Special Librarians Day

**April 10-13**  
Association of College & Research Libraries National Conference  
Charlotte, NC



### Quick fact

More than 140,000 people in Missouri identified their field of occupation to be "education, training, or library" in Census 2000. Statewide, 75 percent of workers in this combined category were women, although the percent varies widely between counties within the state. Phelps County, home to the University of Missouri-Rolla, actually had more men (52 percent) than women (48 percent) working in this occupational category. At the other end of the spectrum, more than 85 percent of workers in this category were female in 15 counties.

Census 2000 tabulated only one Missouri county where no males reported working in the field of education, training or libraries.

## Library support rally in Jefferson City

More than 50 librarians and library trustees traveled to Jefferson City on February 4, 2002, for Missouri Library Legislative Day. The morning program featured a talk by Secretary of State Matt Blunt, a review of the legislative session by Randy Scherr, the Missouri Library Association's lobbyist, a brief presentation by Tony Wening of MOREnet, and an awards ceremony.

Two Missouri legislators received the Francis ("Bud") Barnes Award: Senator John T. Russell and Senator Mike Gibbons. Russell is chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, and Gibbons is chair of the Ways and Means and Judiciary committees. The award is given annually to a Missouri legislator to recognize exceptional contributions to the welfare of Missouri's libraries. Both Russell and Gibbons spoke about the difficulties state legislators face this year as they struggle to retain state services amidst a severe decline in state revenues. They pledged to do what they can for the state's libraries.

Blunt emphasized his commitment to li-

braries and the essential role they fill in the information age as well as their importance to individual communities. In the current legislative session, he is working to secure

the percentage of funding intended for libraries from the Athletes & Entertainers Tax and to maintain state aid funding levels. His monthly newspaper column for February deals with the A&E tax and the importance of this funding to libraries (see column reprinted on page 7).

Scherr reviewed the various bills he is monitoring and their possible

impact on libraries. He urged the audience to keep their representatives informed throughout the legislative session about local library services.

Wening answered questions about the impact of budget cuts on MOREnet's ability to serve libraries, schools, and state government. He offered several key points for library supporters to use when explaining MOREnet services to legislators, the most important points being cost savings, a well-functioning network, and training.



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